

Walter S. and Alice Long House
308 Wordsworth Avenue
Llysven Neighborhood
Altoona
Blair County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-5913

HABS
PA,
7-ALTO,
141-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WALTER S. AND ALICE LONG HOUSE

HABS
PA.
7-ALTO,
141-

HABS No. PA-5913

Location: 308 Wordsworth Avenue

Date of Erection: 1926-27

Description: Wider and larger than many of the bungalows in Llyswen, this one-and-a-half-story, brick-veneered example is nonetheless fairly generic. Big, square cottage windows topped by narrow rectangular lights divided into several small panes flank a simple entry. The front-gabled, second-story dormer has weatherboard siding and a band of three double-hung sash. Battered brick pillars support the roof over the full porch, which is tucked under the steeply pitched side-gable roof. The porch rail is a low wall of the same red brick. The house faces east on a small rise well back from the intersection of Wordsworth Avenue and Halleck Place.

History: Walter S. Long was pastor of the First Church of the Brethren on 5th Street when he purchased this lot for \$550 in 1913. In 1921 a small house appeared on the tax record; house and lot together were assessed a value of \$400. In 1925 Long added a garage and the tax assessment value increased to \$700. Whatever purpose that original house served, it was removed when construction began on the present house in 1926. Long was still listed as a nonresident (by 1925 he had moved on to church property), but the 1927 city directory shows him at this address, and the tax record of that year assessed him for an unfinished large house, valued at \$2,500. After his death in 1953, the house became the property of the Brethren Church and was used as a parsonage until 1988 when it was sold to the current residents.

Sources: Maps: 1932, 1951. City directories. Tax records. Deeds: 220/149, 220/510, 220/509, 222/388, 424/259, 424/257, 1162/597.

Project Information: This report was part of a larger project to document the city of Altoona, Pennsylvania. The project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), Robert Kapsch, chief, at the request of America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), Randy Cooley, director. An overview of the history of the city (HABS No. PA-5784) and an overview of Llyswen (HABS No. PA-5787) provide context for these buildings as well as a comprehensive list of sources. See also additional HABS reports on buildings in the city and other neighborhoods.

This report was prepared by Kathy Edwards in the summer of 1989 under the supervision of Alison K. Hoagland, HABS historian, and Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian. Edwards's and other project historians' work was published as Railroad City: Four Historic Neighborhoods in Altoona, Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C.: HABS/HAER, National Park Service, 1990), edited by Kim E. Wallace, supervisory historian, and Sara Amy Leach, HABS historian.